

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2017
Environment Related Offences
Mahajan Smt. Poonam

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles data on environment related offences and if so, the details thereof including the number of violations registered under various Acts during the last three years, Act and State-wise;
- (b) whether NCRB data suffers from under-reporting and inadequate coverage of laws whose violation would constitute a crime against the environment and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government to improve the enforcement mechanism to implement laws related to protection of environment; and
- (d) whether his Ministry and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have undertaken adequate consultations to increase the coverage of environmental violations and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*172 FOR 14.3.2017.

(a): Yes, Madam. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has started publishing a separate chapter on environment related offences (which includes cases registered under the Forest Act, 1927, the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in its annual report 'Crime in India' since 2014 only. As per available information, 5,835 cases in 2014 and 5,156 cases in 2015 were registered under environment related offences. Act wise and State/UT-wise data during 2014 & 2015 is enclosed as Annexure- A & B respectively.

(b): NCRB collects, compiles and publishes police recorded crime data as reported by States/UTs.

(c): The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) accords prior environmental clearance for projects listed in the schedule of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 (and its

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amendments). Violations of the environmental norms issued for development projects are monitored by ten Regional Offices of the Ministry and by State/UT Pollution Control Board/Committee or any other concerned Central/State agencies. The Ministry sets up standard for emission and effluent discharge. The Ministry prescribes effluent discharge norms/standards for different industries stricter. The Ministry has mandated installation of continuous monitoring system for highly polluting 17 category of industries.

d): MoEF&CC administers various Acts/Rules/Notifications for preservation, conservation, protection and improvement of environment. The Ministry regularly updates these notifications to meet the best possible standards after consultations with experts and stakeholders. National Green Tribunal (NGT) has been set up to enforce legal rights relating to environment and give relief or compensation to affected persons.
